TWO
LETTERS
From His Excellency
Sir Thomas Fairfax,
ONE
To both Houſes of PARLIAMENT;

Giving an Accompt of what Tranſactions and Proceedings have been betwixt the Kings Majeſty and the Army, ſince His coming into their Quarters.

WITH

Some farther Propoſals in relation to His Majeſty, and the ſpeedy ſettlement of the Peace of the Kingdom.

THE OTHER

A LETTER to the Lord Major, Aldermen and Common-Councel of the City of LONDON,

With ſome PAPERS of the Proceedings of the Treaty with the ARMY.

BY *the appointment of his Excellency Sir* Tho: Fairfax, *and the Councel of War.*

Reading, July 8. 1647.

Signed
JOHN RUSHWORTH.

London, Printed for *Laurence Chapman*. JULY 10. 1647.

XUM

Mr. Speaker,

I Was ſent unto by the King on Friday laſt, to deſire the Parliament to give way to Him to ſee His Children; and that they might for that purpoſe be ſent to Him: If I may be bold humbly to offer my Opinion, I think the allowance of ſuch a thing may be without the leaſt prejudice to the Kingdom, and yet gain more upon His Majeſty then denying it; and if it be in the prayers of every good man, That His heart may be gained, the performance of ſuch civilities to Him is very ſutable to thoſe Deſires, and will hear well with all men, who (if they can imagine it to be their own caſe) cannot but be ſorry, if His Majeſties natural affections to His Children, in ſo ſmall a thing ſhould not be complyed with; and if any queſtion ſhould be concerning the aſſurance of their return, I ſhall ingage for their return within what time the Parliament ſhall limit.

Upon this occaſion give me leave, I beſeech you, to take notice of ſome Reports ſpread abroad, as if my ſelf and the Officers of the Army were upon ſome underhand Contract or Bargain with the King; and from thence occaſion is taken to ſlander our Integrities, and endeavor a miſunderſtanding betwixt the Parliament and their Army, the fidelity of which to the Parliament and Kingdom, and their affection to it, are the great objects of ma-

ny mens Envies, becauſe they ſee nothing ſo likely to ſettle Right and Freedom, with Truth and Peace to us and poſterity, & to hinder their Deſigns againſt the ſame, as an Harmony or good accord between the Parliament and Army, which is the joy of good men, and it ſhall be our ſtudy to preſerve againſt all Deſigns and Deſigners to the contrary.

To prevent therefore all miſunderſtandings of that kinde, I thought fit with all clearneſs to declare unto you, That we have done nothing, nor ſhall do any thing which we deſire to hide from you or the world, or ſhall not avow to the faces of our greateſt Adverſaries.

Our Deſires concerning a juſt conſideration and ſettlement of the Kings Rights (His Majeſty firſt giving His concurrence to ſettle and ſecure the Rights and Liberties of the Kingdom) We have already publiquely declared in our Repreſentation and Remonſtrance. Since the firſt of thoſe Papers ſent to the Parliament, there have been ſeveral Officers of the Army upon ſeverall occaſions ſent to His Majeſty, the firſt to preſent to Him a copy of the Repreſentation, and after that ſome others to tender Him a copy of the Remonſtrance; upon both which, the Officers ſent were appointed to clear the ſence and intention of any thing in either Paper, whereupon His Majeſty might make any queſtion. Since then, there have alſo been ſome Officers at ſeveral times ſent to His Majeſty about

His

His remove from *Hatfield*, to diſſwade (if poſſibly) from *Windſor* or any place ſo near *London*, to ſome place of further diſtance, anſwerable to what we had deſired of the Parliament.

In all which addreſſes to His Majeſty, We care not who knows what hath been ſaid or done; for as We have nothing to bargain for or to ask, either from His Majeſty or the Parliament, for advantage to our ſelves, or any particular party or intereſt of our own; ſo in all thoſe Addreſſes to His Majeſty We have utterly diſclaimed and diſavowed any ſuch thing, or any Overtures or Thoughts tending that way; But the onely intent and effect of thoſe our Addreſſes hath been, to deſire and endeavor His Majeſties free concurrence with the Parliament, for eſtabliſhing and ſecuring the common Rights and Liberties, and ſettling the peace of the Kingdom; and to aſſure Him, That (the Publique being ſo provided for, with ſuch His Majeſties concurrence) it is fully agreeable to our Principles, and ſhould be our deſires and endeavor, That (with, and in ſuch ſettling of the Publique) the Rights of His Majeſties Royal Family ſhould be alſo provided for, ſo as a laſting Peace and Agreement might be ſettled in this Nation: And that, as We had publiquely declared for the ſame in general terms, ſo (if things came to a way of ſettlement) We ſhould not be wanting (in our ſphæres) to own that general Deſire, in any particulars of natural or civil right to His Majeſties Perſon or Family, which might

might not prejudice or again indanger the Publique: and in the mean time, That His Majesty should finde all personal civilities and respects from us, with all reasonable freedom that might stand with safety, and with the trust or charge lying upon us concerning His Person.

You have here the utmost sum of what hath pass'd from us to His Majesty; and We could wish all men did rightly understand (without misrepresentations) every particular wherein (as We know nothing not agreeable to Reason, Justice, Honesty or Conscience, so) We thought our selves concerned the rather to say and do, as We have towards His Majesty since He came within our quarters, because of those common prejudices suggested against us, as it We were utter Enemies to Monarchy, and all Civil Order or Government.

And for that particular of the Duke of *Richmond* and the Two Chapleins lately permitted to attend His Majesty, It was not done without much reluctancy, because therein We doubted We might be misunderstood by the Kingdoms best friends.

But upon His Majesties continuing importunity for it (as a thing very nearly concerning His present inward and outward contentment; and conceiving those persons such (as we hoped) would not do ill offices to prejudice the Peace of the Kingdom, We did give way to it, and the persons (before they came) had notice of the permission: And as We then thought, so We still do think,

That

That to allow him some such company of persons least dangerous, whom former acquaintance may make him take pleasure in; and the allowance of some such Chapleins of His own, are things both reasonable and just; and the debarring of that liberty in the latter (We doubt) will but make Him more prejudiced against other Ministers.

In general, We humbly conceive, that to avoid all harshness, and afford all kinde usage to His Majesties Person, in things consisting with the Peace and Safety of the Kingdom, is the most Christian, Honorable and Prudent way: And in all things (as the Representation and Remonstrance of the Army doth expresse) We think that tender, equitable and moderate dealing, both towards His Majesty, His Royal Family, and His late party (so far as may stand with safety to the Kingdom, and security to our common Rights and Liberties) is the most hopeful course to take away the seeds of War or future Feuds amongst us for posterity, and to procure a lasting Peace and Agreement in this now distracted Nation; To the effecting and setling whereof (with a secure provision first to be made for the common Rights and Liberties of the Kingdom, and a due care to preserve and propagate the Gospel of Truth & Peace amongst us) we shall hope that neither the Parliament nor His Majesty will be wanting: And if God shall see it good to make us any way instrumental thereunto, or that We may otherwise see the same accomplish, We

shall

ſhall then think our ſelves indeed diſcharged from the publique ingagements We have been called out unto, more clearly and effectually then (before ſuch things were ſettled) We could have thought our ſelves to be, and (to demonſtrate our clearneſs from ſeeking ſelf-advantages in what We did) We ſhall thenceforth account it our greateſt happineſs and Honor (if God ſee it good) to be diſingaged and diſmiſt, not onely from our Military charges, but from all other matters of Power or publique imployment whatſoever.

I have in theſe things ſpoke, not in my own Name alone, but in the Name (becauſe I finde it to be the clear ſence of the generality, or at leaſt of the moſt conſiderable part) of the Army, and I am confident you and the Kingdom will never finde it otherwiſe: I ſhall leave it to your favorable conſtruction, and commit all to the goodneſs of God for an happy iſſue. I remain

Reading, July 8. 1647.

Your moſt humble Servant,

T. Fairfax.

For the Right Honorable, The Lords and Commons aſſembled in Parliament.

For

For the Right Honourable the Lord Maior, Aldermen and Common-Councel of the City of LONDON.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

TO the end we may continue a right understanding betwixt you and us all along in the management of this great businesse with the Parliament, (the happie proceedings thereof so much concerning the safety and peace of this Kingdom) we have given your Commissioners this day the copie of a Paper which we presented to the Commissioners of Parliament residing with us; wherein we take notice of the true reasons of the slowe progresse in the Treaty, and declare where the stop remains. And to the end that nothing may be wanting in us which might work toward the speedie settlement of the quiet of this Kingdom; we have humbly offered what we can say will most effectually tend to remove

thoſe incumbrances and letts which ſtand between us and the univerſal good of the Kingdom; and till that be done, it cannot be expected that we ſhould procure the Peace of this Kingdom by a Treaty, but rather give occaſion and opportunity thereby to others to engage us in a ſecond War, which muſt neceſſarily hazard the ruine of this Kingdom, as alſo the certain deſtruction of *Ireland*, the relief whereof we ſhoud moſt effectually apply unto you, were the affairs of *England* but once put into an hopeful poſture. It is a ſudden and ſubſtantial ſettlement of the whole we deſire, in a general, ſafe, and well-grounded Peace, and the eſtabliſhment of ſuch good Laws, as may duely and readily render to every man their juſt Rights and Liberties: And for the obtaining of thoſe, not onely our intentions had led us to, but we think that all the Blood, Treaſure and Labour ſpent in this War, was for the accompliſhing thoſe very things which are of that concernment both to our ſelves and poſterity, that neither we nor they can live comfortably without them, and thereof we hope your ſelves will have the ſame ſenſe, and therefore improve your intereſt for the obtaining our juſt Deſires in the Propoſals now ſent unto the Parliament; which being granted, and we ſecured from the danger of a War, we ſhall proceed with cheerfulneſſe to the Treaty, and doubt not in a ſhort time to ſee an happie Conclu-

ſion,

clusion, to the ſatisfaction of all honeſt mens Expectation, and that in all our undertakings we ſhall be found men of truth, fully and fingly anſwering the things we have held forth to the Kingdom in our ſeveral Declarations and Papers, without by or baſe reſpects to any private end or intereſt whatſoever.

READING, *July* 8. 1647.

By the Appointment of His Excellency Sir Thomas Fairfax, *and his Councel of War.*

Signed, Jo. RUSHWORTH, Secretary.

A Paper delivered in by the Commiſſioners of Parliament, *Wedneſday, July* 7. 1647.

THat finding the Expectation of the Parliament and Kingdom to be very great upon the ſpeedy progreſſe and happie iſſue of this Treaty; in conſideration whereof, we have made it our Care conſtantly to attend at the appointed times of meeting, and to preſſe all diſpatch therein: And we cannot but take notice that the proceedings on your part have been and are very ſlowe, and that little or nothing hath been done in the Treaty ſince our entrance thereupon: and therefore in diſcharge of our Duty, and the Truſt repoſed in us, we do very earneſtly deſire that the Treaty may be effectually proceeded on with all expedition, and the times for meeting punctually kept; there being nothing that ſhall be wanting in us, according to the power given us, to further a work of ſo great importance, and which may perfect a right underſtanding betwixt the Parliament and the Army.

Reading, *July* 7. 1647.

By the appointment of the Commiſſioners reſiding with the Army.

Signed, GEO. PYKE, Secretary.

An

An Anſwer of the Commiſſioners of the Army to the Paper of the Commiſſioners of Parliament about a ſpeedie proceeding.

BY the laſt Paper delivered in unto us from your Lordſhips at *Reading* the 7 of *July*, we perceive you finde, That the Expectation of the Parliament and Kingdom is great upon the ſpeedie progreſſe and happie iſſue of this Treatie. We anſwer, That we do really apprehend the ſame things with you; neither can we but witneſſe that you have conſtantly attended the appointed times of meeting, and preſt diſpatch therein: Nevertheleſſe we cannot but be very ſenſible, that you ſeem to reflect upon us further then there is juſt cauſe, in your taking notice that the proceedings herein ſhould be ſlowe and dilatory on our part, as if we ſhould not ſeem to deſire and labour the quick and ſpeedie ſettlement of the affairs of the Kingdom in a ſafe and well-grounded Peace as cordially as any perſons whatſoever. We ſhall therefore deſire you to remember with what forwardneſſe we have in the firſt place preſented to you thoſe

those things which we did in our hearts conceive necessary in order to a Treaty, and without which being granted, we could not with safety to the Kingdom and satisfaction to our selves proceed in Treaty; and further prest you to present them to the Parliament with speed, that a quick dispatch might be had therein, as being in our thoughts the chiefest and surest way to prevent the engaging this Kingdom in a second War; when contrary to our expectation we have found little effectually done in relation to our Desires in those things most concerning the safety and peace of the Kingdom.

To the end therefore wee may acquit our selves from being guilty of the delay you mention, and that it may appear to all men where the stick is of not proceeding in the Treaty to a settlement of the peace of the Kingdome so much thirsted after by us all, we thought fit to reminde you of these following propolals, which we have formerly insisted upon, and to which satisfaction is not given.

I. *That there is nothing done with effect, notwithstanding the Votes of the House, to the dispersing of the Reformado Officers, who still continue in and about London, ready to head Forces, to the apparent hazzard of a new Warre.*

II. *That*

VI. *That notwithstanding the Votes of the House for the speedy sending into Ireland, or disbanding those Forces which left the Army, and their speciall Order to the Committee at Derby House to take speedy care therein, yet they are still continued in bodies in and about London, and as wee hear, are daily listing more Forces, pretending the Service of Ireland.*

VII. *That notwithstanding the Votes of the House of the tenth of June, and those since of the fifth of July, for the present purging the of House, yet divers persons comprised in these Votes continue still to sit there.*

So long as wee remain unsatisfied in the two first of these particulars, wee cannot be secured from those doubts we have expressed of the danger of a new Warre, especially if it be considered, that the end of inviting so many Reformado Officers to *London*, was to lay a foundation of a new Warre, and was principally carried on by the designe of some of those Members of the House of Commons we have impeached. And likewise that divers of the Officers and Souldiers which left this Army were procured by promi-

fes

ſes of pay, and other ingagements, which were likewiſe deſigned by the ſame perſons aforementioned, if poſſibly they might thereby have broken this Army.

And for the laſt; What comfortable effect may wee expect of a Treaty, ſo long as the Parliament (the ſupreme Judicatory of the Kingdome) is conſtituted of ſome that are men of intereſts contrary to the common good thereof, from whom wee can expect nothing but banding and deſigning, to obſtruct and fruſtrate all proceedings (contrary to their intereſt) though never ſo eſſentiall to the happy ſettlement of the Kingdome: and if a ſeaſonable remedy be not given herein, wee deſpair of any good to the Kingdome by way of Treaty.

Reading, 7° Julii, 1647. *Signed,*

By the appointment of the Commiſsioners of the Army.

WILLIAM CLERK *Secretary.*

FINIS.